

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1        ~~1. A system for saving handwriting in a scanned image as an~~  
2        ~~annotation, comprising:~~  
3                ~~a scanner;~~  
4                ~~a document analysis and processing software component in~~  
5        ~~communication with said scanner; and~~  
6                ~~automatic annotation logic in communication with said document~~  
7        ~~analysis and processing software component, said automatic annotation logic~~  
8        ~~configured to detect a region in a scanned image, said region including~~  
9        ~~handwriting, and save said handwriting as an annotation in a document~~  
10       ~~generated from said scanned image.~~

1        2. The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is  
2        selected by a user of said scanner.

1        3. The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is  
2        automatically determined by said document analysis and processing software  
3        component.

1        4. ~~The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is~~  
2        ~~on a notation on a page.~~

1 ~~5. The system of claim 1, wherein said handwriting is written directly~~  
2 on a page.

1 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting recognition  
2 logic configured to recognize said handwriting.

1 7. The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from a  
3 preview image created from said scanned image.

1 8. The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from said  
3 document generated from said scanned image.

1 9. The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from a  
3 preview image created from said scanned image.

1 10. The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2 removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from said  
3 document generated from said scanned image.

1 ~~11. A method for saving handwriting in a scanned image as an~~  
2 ~~annotation, the method comprising the steps of:~~  
3 ~~scanning an image in a scanner;~~  
4 ~~detecting a region in said scanned image, said region including~~  
5 ~~handwriting; and~~  
6 ~~saving said handwriting in said detected region as an annotation in~~  
7 ~~a document generated from said scanned image.~~

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting  
2 is selected by a user of said scanner.

1 13. The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting  
2 is automatically determined.

1 14. The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting  
2 is on a notation on a page.

1 15. The method of claim 11, wherein said handwriting is written  
2 directly on a page.

1 16. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of recognizing  
2 said handwriting using handwriting recognition logic.

1 ~~17. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of removing the~~  
2 ~~appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from said scanned~~  
3 ~~image.~~

1 18. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of removing the  
2 appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from said scanned  
3 image.

1 19. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of removing the  
2 appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said scanned  
3 image.

1 20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of removing the  
2 appearance of said notation from said document generated from said scanned  
3 image.

1 21. A computer readable medium having a program for saving  
2 handwriting in a scanned image as an annotation, the program including logic  
3 for performing the steps of:

4 scanning an image in a scanner;

5 detecting a region in said scanned image, said region  
6 including handwriting; and

7 saving said handwriting in said detected region as an  
8 annotation in a document generated from said scanned image.

1        ~~22. The program of claim 21, wherein said region including~~  
2        ~~handwriting is selected by a user of said scanner.~~

1        ~~23. The program of claim 21, wherein said region including~~  
2        ~~handwriting is automatically determined.~~

1        ~~24. The program of claim 21, wherein said region including~~  
2        ~~handwriting is on a notation on a page.~~

1        25. The program of claim 21, wherein said handwriting is written  
2        directly on a page.

1        26. The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to  
2        perform the step of recognizing said handwriting using handwriting recognition  
3        logic.

1        27. The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to  
2        remove the appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from  
3        said scanned image.

1        28. The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to  
2        remove the appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from  
3        said scanned image.

1 29. The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to

2 remove the appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said

3 scanned image.

1 30. The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to

2 remove the appearance of said notation from said document generated from said

3 scanned image.